

## PTEROGLOSSUS BEAUHARNAISI, Wagl.

Curl-crested Araçari.

### SPECIFIC CHARACTER.

*Pter. plumis capitinis, generum, nuchaeque foliiferis, illius crassis nigris, harum spatulatis, generum stramineis nigro apiculatis.*

*Descr.*—Crown of the head clothed with curled horn-like appendages of an intense and glossy black, which as they approach the occiput gradually lose their curled character and become straight, narrow and spatulate; the cheeks clothed with similar appendages, straight, narrow, of a more decidedly spatulate form, and of a pearly white tipped with black; occiput, back, and a band across the rump deep blood-red; lower part of the back, wings and tail very deep green; primaries brown; upper tail-coverts deep green, with a crescent of reddish brown near the tip; all the under surface yellow, the feathers of the breast fringed in a crescentic form with blood-red, and the flanks largely stained with the same hue, traces of which also occur on the vent and under tail-coverts; culmen of the bill chocolate-red at the base, passing into the orange-red of the apical half; next the culmen a stripe of bluish green, the remainder of the upper mandible chocolate-red, with the exception of a line along the serratures which is white; under mandible yellowish white, except at the tip which is orange; both mandibles bounded at the base with a narrow band of dull red; orbits blue, passing into green behind the eye and with a narrow line of blood-red next the appendages of the crown; irides red; thighs olive; legs and feet green. Total length, 18 inches; bill, 4; wing, 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ ; tail, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; tarsi, 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ .

*Pteroglossus Beauharnaisii*, Wagl. in Unterh. "das Ausland," 1830, no. 118. S. 470.—Ib. Oken's Isis, 1832, S. 280.—Gould, Mon. of Ramph., Sturm's Edit. pl. .—Gray and Mitch. Gen. of Birds, vol. ii. p. 404, *Pteroglossus*, sp. 16.—Bonap. Conspl. Gen. Av., p. 95, *Pteroglossus*, sp. 16.

— *Paepigii*, Wagl. Oken's Isis, 1832, S. 1230.—Gray and Mitch. Gen. of Birds, vol. ii. p. 404, *Pteroglossus*, sp. 17.

— *leptocephalus*, Nitzsch.

— *ulocomus*, Gould in Proc. Zool. Soc., Part I. p. 38.—Ib. Mon. of Ramph., pl. 18.

*Beauharnasius ulocomus*, Bonap. in litt.

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THIS may be considered not only the finest of the *Pteroglossi*, but the most beautiful of the *Ramphastidæ*; it is moreover rendered conspicuously remarkable by the singular structure of the glossy and curiously curled appendages clothing the crown, which we find it impossible to do justice to; they can only be compared to the horn-like feathers decorating some species of the *Gallinæ*,—the extreme ends of the neck- and wing-feathers of the *Gallus Sonnerati* for instance. This structure appears to consist of a dilatation of the shaft of each feather, or perhaps an agglutination as it were of the webs into one mass.

In 1830, and the three following years, several examples of this bird were transmitted to Europe, some of which found a resting-place in England, and others on the continent, principally in Germany. Almost simultaneously, the bird from its great beauty and interest attracted the notice of various ornithologists, and several specific appellations were assigned to it, Wagler calling it *P. Beauharnaisii*, Nitzsch *P. leptocephalus*, and myself, unaware of either of those names having been given, proposing that of *ulocomus*: